

— THE —
**ANNUAL
REPORT
FOR THE
MARKET HARBOROUGH
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL,**

— 1908, —

BY
**JAMES H. THOMAS,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.**



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1909.



MARKET HARBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Medical Officer's Annual Report 1908.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the pleasure of presenting you with my Annual Report, together with the tables of Statistics, the report of your Sanitary Inspector, and the report made under the Factory and Workshops' Act. I would point out that much detail has to be repeated from year to year to meet the requirements of the Local Government Board.

The area of the District is 4,520 acres, comprised within the three Parishes of Market Harborough, Great Bowden and Little Bowden, with a population at the Census of 1901 of 7,735. The average increase of population since the previous Census had been 186 per annum, and so far as I am able to ascertain this rate of increase is maintained. The estimation of the population for 1908 is based on the ascertained number of inhabited houses, and the assumption that the average number of inmates per house is the same as it was at the Census of 1901. On this basis the population of the whole district is 9,250.

The Urban District is situated in the Welland Valley, the lowest portion being about 290 feet, and the highest about 450 above ordnance level. The strata vary from upper to lower lias, covered by drift gravel in small patches, and the surrounding land is almost entirely pasture. The river Welland runs from West to East through the town and carries the water drainage.

The chief industries are grazing, the manufacture of corsets, hosiery, rubber, type and woodworking, coffee milling, brewing and leather-tanning.

The house accommodation is of good class for the working classes, of whom many own houses. All new houses are supervised by the Council and erected under model bye-laws. No action has been taken under the Housing of the Working Classes Act. With the exception of a few of the older yards in Market Harborough, there is a good general sufficiency of open space about the houses. The drainage is good and there is a continuous water supply from the mains. I have again to call attention to the fact that no flushing cistern is fixed to the water closets in many of the smaller houses. I consider this a very serious sanitary defect in the town.

The Sewerage System is in good working order and self-cleaning; also new house drains are tested with water. The Sewage is carried by the main System to the Sewage Farm, situated about two-and-a-half miles East of the town. This has been working satisfactorily during the year. The drains and sewers are kept properly flushed and disinfected by the Council's officials. The excrement disposal is by the water carriage system of sewers, and no bucket system of disposal is in vogue. The house refuse is scavenged by the Council carts, and the ash tubs are emptied once or twice a week, and removed to a site possessed by the Council for destruction or disposal.

The Water Supply of the Urban District is derived from a source eight miles distant at North Kilworth, and is received above the town in a reservoir. From this source there is a daily supply available of about 20 gallons per head. The water is of a high standard of purity, though of considerable hardness, and is free from all risks of pollution. In addition to this a large natural underground storage reservoir has been tapped at North Kilworth and connected with the Town supply. From this source about 40,000 gallons daily are available. Besides this main supply there is an auxiliary supply on the Council's property for the Public Baths, and for the watering of the Markets and Streets.



In addition there are 74 Wells from which a supply of good water is procured by the owners.

The Council have appointed a Veterinary Inspector for Dairies, Cowsheds, Milkshops and Slaughter-houses; also an Inspector for Bakehouses, Factories and Workshops. All these premises have been regularly and efficiently dealt with, and all the necessary provisions carried out in this respect, as also in respect of other premises under the control of the Council.

The bye-laws are enforced in the Surveyor's department; there is, at present, no need for their amendment or extension.

The Notification of Infectious Diseases Act is in operation, Varicella was eliminated from the list of notifiable diseases at the beginning of the year. I would call special attention to the fact that the voluntary notification of Phthisis has been recognised by the Council, and that they have undertaken the disinfection of premises that have been occupied by Phthisical patients on request.

An Isolation Hospital is provided, on the outskirts of the town, by the Council. The use of these premises is subject to the sanction of the local authority, and is intended to meet the question of insufficient home isolation. Cases have been treated at the hospital during the year. An Isolation Hospital for Small-pox is provided by the County Council at Mowsley, eight miles distant, for the reception of any patients from this Urban area. The Council undertake and provide for all disinfection, both of premises and infected materials, and have an excellent steam disinfecter, with a proper staff to collect and deal with such articles as may require to be disinfected.

The various areas of the District have been systematically investigated by the Sanitary Inspector and myself. The cleanliness and general scavenging of the town is well attended to by the Council's employees. A Central Public Mortuary and two public Slaughter-houses are provided. During the year, 83 Nuisances have been dealt with and abated, eight inspections of Lodging-houses have been made and two inspections of offensive trades. There are eight registered Slaughter-houses and 12 registered Dairymen which have received hundreds of inspections. There have been 33 cases of infectious diseases notified affecting 24 houses.

The Vital Statistics during 1908 and previous years are set forth in Table I.

There were 192 Births registered in 1908, and 101 Deaths. Of these 26 births and 23 deaths occurred in Market Harborough, 101 births and 47 deaths in Great Bowden and 65 births and 30 deaths in Little Bowden. Of the deaths 13 occurred in the Workhouse, Great Bowden, of which six were persons not properly belonging to the District, whereas there were two deaths at Leicester Infirmary and three deaths at the County Asylum of persons properly belonging to the District. These have been added or separated as required, and this gives a corrected Death Rate for the year of 10.81 per 1,000.

In reviewing the Table of the Diseases specified as the causes of death it will be noticed that Cancer is responsible for the largest number, 15, Heart Disease for 11, and Phthisis and other Tuberculous Diseases for 10. I would again lay stress on the highly infectious nature of Phthisis and urge the community to avail themselves of the Council's readiness to carry out disinfection in the case of this disease.

From Table I it will be seen that the birth rate is still decreasing, being 20.75 per 1000 as compared with the average of the previous ten years of 24.33 per 1000. The Death Rate is unusually low. There is a very welcome diminution in the rate of Infant Mortality, this being only 78.12 per 1,000 as compared with the previous average of 96.67 per 1,000. For some weeks during the year no death was recorded in the District.

Table *III* indicates the return of infectious diseases notified within the District, and shows a return of 33 cases as compared with 55 for the previous year, the diminution being due to the fact that Chicken Pox had been eliminated from the list of notifiable diseases.

Table *IV* sets forth the causes of and ages at death.

Table *V* sets forth the Infant Mortality during the year.

With regard to Section 132 of the Factory and Workshops Act of 1901, I have to report that a proper register has been kept of all places coming under the Act. Proper supervision has been carried out of the sanitary condition of workshops and workplaces, and the premises used for home work. The lists of outworkers are duly kept and the names and places of employment forwarded to Councils of the Districts as occasion arises. There are 28 Factories which have had 68 inspections, 71 Workshops and 16 Bakehouses with 174 inspections, 2 Workplaces with 8 inspections. There are no underground Bakehouses. There are 36 outworkers with 72 inspections: only one summons was issued and this was subsequently withdrawn. Section 22 of the Public Health amendment Act, 1890, is in force in the District, and as regards the standard of efficiency, each case is taken on its merits. A tabular statement is appended.

In conclusion, I would convey my sincere thanks to your Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Coales, and your Veterinary Inspector, Mr. Wiggins, for their efficient work and help during the year.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

JAMES H. THOMAS,

Medical Officer of Health.

*Market Harborough,
February 27th, 1909.*

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1908 and previous Years.

Name of District Market Scarborough Urban

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.				
				Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.									
		Number.	Rate.*	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*				Number.	Rate.*			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13			
1898.	198	212	29.45	24	113.20	109	15.14	15	13	-	96	13.33			
1899.	384	180	24.37	20	111.11	119	16.11	11	5	-	114	15.43			
1900.	540	221	29.19	15	64.87	109	14.39	12	8	-	101	13.34			
1901.	435	191	24.62	21	109.94	97	11.64	8	7	-	90	12.54			
1902.	96	171	21.12	25	140.35	102	12.51	18	13	-	89	10.99			
1903.	400	197	23.48	15	76.29	101	12.02	18	13	-	88	10.47			
1904.	600	203	23.60	20	98.52	97	11.27	21	11	-	81	9.41			
1905.	794	212	24.09	14	66.00	106	12.04	14	10	-	96	10.91			
1906.	897	200	22.47	17	85.00	107	12.02	17	8	3	102	11.46			
1907.	948	193	21.02	19	98.14	109	11.87	19	9	6	106	11.89			
Averages for years 1898-1907.	185	198	24.33	19	96.67	105	12.90	15	10	4.5	96	11.97			
1908.	250	192	20.45	15	78.12	101	10.91	13	6	5	100	10.81			

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

NOTE.—The deaths to be included in Column 7 of this Table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths to be included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

The "Public institutions" to be taken into account for the purposes of these Tables are those into which persons are habitually received on account of sickness or infirmity, such as hospitals, workhouses and lunatic asylums. A list of the Institutions in respect of the deaths in which corrections have been made should be given on the back of this Table.

Total population at all ages 4435Number of inhabited houses 1628Average number of persons per house 4.83

At Census of 1901.

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[SEE OVER.]

I.	II.	III.
Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.	Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.	Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.
The Union Workhouse Great Bowden Market Starborough	Northampton General Hospital Leicester General Infirmary Berry Wood Asylum Northampton	
The Nursing Home St. Mary's Road Market Starborough	Leicester County Asylum, Leicester	

Is the Union Workhouse ^{is} within the District? _____

TABLE II.
Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1908 and previous years.

NOTES.—(a) The separate localities adopted for this table should be areas of which the populations are obtainable from the census returns, such as wards, parishes or groups of parishes, or registration sub-districts. Block 1 may, if desired, be used for the whole district: and blocks 2, 3, &c., for the several localities. In small districts without recognised divisions of known population this Table

The separate localities adopted for this table should be areas of which the populations are obtainable from the census returns, such as towns, parishes, &c., or recognised sub-districts. Block 1 may, if desired, be used for the whole district: and blocks 2, 3, &c., for the several localities. In small districts without recognised divisions of known population this Table

(b) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions beyond the district are to be included in sub-columns *c* of this table, and those of non-residents registered in public institutions in the district need not be filled up.

(c) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions, whether within or without the district, are to be allotted to the respective localities according to the addresses of the deceased.
 (d) Care should be taken that the gross totals of the several columns in this Table respectively equal the corresponding totals for the whole districts in Tables I. and IV.: thus, the totals of sub-columns *a*, *b*, and *c* should agree with the figures for the year in the columns 2, 3, and 12, respectively, of Table I.: the gross total of the sub-columns *c* should agree with the total

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1908

NOTES.—The localities adopted for this table should be the same as those in Tables II. and IV.

—The localities adopted for this table should be the same as those in Tables II. and IV. State in space below the name of the isolation hospital, if any, to which residents in the district, suffering from infectious disease, are usually sent. Mark (H) the locality in which it is situated, or if not within the district, state where it is situated, and in what district. The name of the authority by whom the hospital is provided should also be given. Mark (W) the locality in which

a workhouse is situated.

*This stamp may be used for record of other disease the notification (compulsory or voluntary) of which is in force in the district.

* This space may be used for record of other useuse the nomination (comparisons of voluntary or which is in force in the district).

* * * Column 8 should be filled up with the Totals of cases removed to Hospital, whether the District is divided into separate localities or consists of only one undivided area

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Isolation Hospital ~~Isolation Hospital~~ for Southampton Road. Little Bowden
also small ~~for~~ Hospital at Nowley.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1907.

Name of District Market Harborough Urban.

(See Notes at Back.)

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS" WHETHER OCCURRING IN OR BEYOND THE DISTRICT.								DEATHS AT ALL AGES OF "RESIDENTS" BELONGING TO LOCALITIES, WHETHER OCCURRING IN OR BEYOND THE DISTRICT.					TOTAL DEATHS WHETHER OF "RESIDENTS" OR "NON-RESIDENTS" IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT. 16	
	All ages. 1	Under 1 year. 2	1 and under 5. 3	5 and under 15. 4	15 and under 25. 5	25 and under 65. 6	65 and upwards. 7	Market Harborough. 8	Great Bowden. 9	Little Bowden. 10	11	12	13	14	
Small-pox													
Measles													
Scarlet fever														
Whooping-cough ...															
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)															
Croup													
Fever	Typhus ... Enteric ... Other continued														
Epidemic influenza ...		3		1				1	1	3					
Cholera ...															
Plague ...															
Diarrhoea. (See notes at back.)															
Enteritis. (See notes at back.)		1	1						1						
Puerperal fever. (See notes at back.)															
Erysipelas ...															
Other septic diseases...		1	1												
Phthisis, (Pulmonary Tuberculosis.)	5				2	2	1	1	2	2					
Other tubercular diseases.	5	1	1	1	1	1			1	4					
Cancer, malignant disease. (See notes at back.)	15						7	8	14	7	4				
Bronchitis ...		7					1	6	1	4	2				
Pneumonia ...	3		1		1		1	1	2	1					
Pleurisy ...															
Other diseases of Respiratory organs.	2	2													
Alcoholism		1													
Cirrhosis of liver															
Venereal diseases ...															
Premature birth ...	6	6													
Diseases and accidents of parturition															
Heart diseases ...		11					2	9	1	8	2				
Accidents ...	5		1				3	1	1	4					
Suicides ...	3						2	1	1	1	1				
All other causes ...	2	7	4	1	1	6	15	6	12	9					
All causes ...	95	15	5	1	5	26	43	22	144	29					13

+ Residents dying outside district. 5 ages & cause of death not known.

NOTES TO TABLES IV. AND V.

(a) In Table IV., all deaths of "Residents" occurring in public institutions, whether within or without the district, are to be *included* with the other deaths in the columns for the several age groups (columns 2-8). They are also, in columns 9-15, to be *included* among the deaths in their respective "Localities" according to the previous addresses of the deceased as given by the Registrars. Deaths of "Non-residents" occurring in public institutions in the district are in like manner to be *excluded* from columns 2-8 and 9-15 of Table IV.

(b) See notes on Table I. as to the meaning of "Residents" and "Non-residents," and as to the "Public Institutions" to be taken into account for the purposes of these Tables. The "Localities" in Table IV. should be the same as those in Tables II. and III.

(c) All deaths occurring in public institutions situated within the district, whether of "Residents" or of "Non-residents," are, in addition to being dealt with as in note (a), to be entered in the last column of Table IV. The total number in this column should equal the figures for the year in column 9, Table I.

(d) The total deaths in the several "Localities" in columns 9-15 of Table IV. should equal those for the year in the same localities in Table II., sub-columns c. The total deaths at all ages in column 2 of Table IV. should equal the gross total of columns 9-15, and the figures for the year in column 12 of Table I.

*(e) Under the heading of "Diarrhoea" are to be included deaths registered as due to Epidemic diarrhoea, Epidemic enteritis, Infective enteritis, Zymotic enteritis, Summer diarrhoea, Dysentery and Dysenteric diarrhoea, Choleraic diarrhoea, Cholera and Cholera Nostras.

In addition, and as regards deaths of children *under one year of age*, under the heading "Diarrhoea" in column 3 (Table IV.) are to be included all deaths classified as "Diarrhoeal diseases" in Table V.

Under the heading of "Enteritis" in Table IV., are to be included only deaths *over one year of age* registered as due to Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis, Gastric catarrh, Gastritis, and Gastro-intestinal catarrh, unless from information obtained by enquiry from the certifying practitioner or otherwise, the Medical Officer of Health should have reason for including such deaths, under the specific term "Diarrhoea." Deaths from diarrhoea secondary to some other well-defined disease should be included under the latter.

(f) Under the headings of "Cancer" and "Puerperal fever" should be included all registered deaths from causes comprised within these general terms. Thus: Under "Cancer" should be included deaths from Cancer, Carcinoma, Malignant disease, Scirrhous, Epithelioma, Sarcoma, Villous tumour, and Papilloma of bladder, Rodent ulcer. Under "Puerperal Fever" are to be included deaths from Pyæmia, Septicæmia, Sapræmia, Pelvic peritonitis, Peri- and Endo-Metritis occurring in the Puerperium.

(g) Under "Congenital Defects" in Table V. are to be included deaths from Atelectasis, Icterus neonatorum, Navel haemorrhage, Malformations and Congenital hydrocephalus.

(h) Under "Tuberculous meningitis" are to be included deaths from Acute hydrocephalus.

(i) Under "Other Tuberculous Diseases" are to be included deaths from Tuberculosis, Tuberculosis of bones, joints and other organs, Lupus and Scrofula.

(j) All deaths certified by registered Medical Practitioners and all Inquest cases are to be classed as "Certified"; all other deaths are to be regarded as "Uncertified."

In recording the facts under the various headings of Tables I., II., III., IV. and V., attention has been given to the notes on the Tables.

(Signed) James H. Thomas Medical Officer of Health.

Date Feb. 22nd 1906

* As regards infantile diarrhoea and Table V., it will suffice if Medical Officers of Health, who have already tabulated deaths of 1906 in accordance with the schedule of the Incorporated Society of Medical Officers of Health, enter all deaths under one year that they regard as due to diarrhoea under the single heading "Diarrhoea, all forms."

This having been done, it will be necessary that the entry against "Diarrhoea" in column 3 of Table IV. should tally with the sum of deaths under "Diarrhoea, all forms," entered in the final column of Table V.

Table V.

Market Harborough Urban

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District.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1908.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

(See Notes at back of Table IV.)

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Causes.	{ Certified ... Uncertified ...	8	1	1	1	10	-	1	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	1	15
i. Common Infectious Diseases.	{ Small-pox ... Chicken-pox ... Measles ... Scarlet Fever ... Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup) Whooping Cough ...																	
ii. Diarrhoeal Diseases.	{ Diarrhoea, all forms ... Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis ... Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh ...	1				1												1
(See Notes to Table IV.)	Premature Birth ...	4	1	1	-	5		1										6
	Congenital Defects (See Notes to Table IV.)	3				3												6
iii. Wasting Diseases.	{ Injury at Birth ... Want of Breast-milk, Starvation ... Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus ...																	
iv. Tuberculous Diseases.	{ Tuberculous Meningitis ... (See Notes to Table IV.) Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica ... Other Tuberculous Diseases ... (See Notes to Table IV.)																	
v. Other Causes.	{ Erysipelas ... Syphilis ... Rickets ... Meningitis (not Tuberculous) Convulsions ... Bronchitis ... Laryngitis ... Pneumonia ... Suffocation, overlying ... Other Causes ...																	
Total		8	1	1	-	10	-	1	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	15

District (or sub-division) of Market Harborough Urban

Population.

Estimated to middle of 1908 9250

Births in the year { legitimate ...
illegitimate 12Deaths in the year of { legitimate infants 14
illegitimate infants 1

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages 15

